



American Public Health Association

Working for a Healthier World

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February 15, 2007

Representative Peggy Sayers
Co-Chair, Public Health Committee
Room 3000
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT, 06106

Dear Representative Sayers:

On behalf of the American Public Health Association (APHA), I wish to inform you of our support for HB 5760, *An Act Concerning Prevention Strategies For Vision Problems In Young Children*. The American Public Health Association is the nation's oldest, largest and most diverse organization of public health professionals in the world, dedicated to protecting all Americans, their families and their communities from preventable, serious health threats and assuring community-based health promotion and disease prevention activities and preventive health services are universally accessible in the United States.

House Bill 5760 will assure that each child will have an eye examination by an eye doctor prior to public school enrollment. As an organization concerned about the delivery of children's health care services, we support HB 5760.

APHA is committed to supporting access to and delivery of services to children including immunizations and vision examinations for children. We recognize that children are at high risk for having undetected vision problems, which are often unknown to parents, children and their teachers.

Thank you for your attention to this important legislation. If you have any questions regarding our support of HB 5760 or if we can be of any assistance, please contact Don Hoppert, Director of Government Relations at (202) 777-2514.

Sincerely,

Georges C. Benjamin, MD, FACP
Executive Director